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Cross country team gears up for conference championships

Spartan Daily

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Protest draws sparse turnout



Katherine Silva of San Jose prepares her sign before joining the other protestors. Silva, who said she met organizer Donna Wallach at a San Francisco demonstration condemning police brutality, said she is against the war.

Jill Toyoshiba / Daily Staff

Breast cancer event alerts SJSU

By Kellie Chittenden
DAILY STAFF WRITER

At one point during her presentation on breast cancer awareness Wednesday in the Student Union's Council Chambers, Donna O'Neil removed her necklace to make a point to the seven women in attendance.

"This bead," O'Neil said holding the golf-ball size bead in the center of the necklace, "represents the average size of a lump found by women untrained in self breast exams."

As the beads got smaller on O'Neil's necklace, they represented the greater degrees of detection measures women can take to catch breast cancer in its earliest, and most treatable stages.

The smallest bead on the necklace, about the size of a pea, represented the average size of a lump detected on women who get regular mammograms, O'Neil explained.

O'Neil is a volunteer with the American Cancer Society's Reach to Recovery program, which provides information and assistance to women diagnosed with breast cancer.

The hour-long informational lecture was arranged by the Peer Health Education Program, the Women's Resource Center and the sororities Sigma Theta Psi and Delta Sigma Theta.

Idelle Fraser, a coordinator for the peer health program, said even

Anti-Israeli protesters rally against unjust treatment at downtown plaza

By Liz Cloutman

DAILY SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Six people congregated at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at Plaza de Cesar Chavez for an hour-long demonstration against what they said is the unjust treatment of Palestini-

ans by Israel.

The demonstrators — four of whom are naturalized American citizens — stood on the sidewalk at the southern edge of the park so the signs they held aloft would be visible to people driving past. Some of the poster-board signs

had been prepared in advance while others were made on the spot by participants, all of whom are San Jose residents.

On the signs were phrases such as "Jews for Palestinians," "Stop massacring Palestinians" and "Stop Israeli Repression."

All the demonstrators are acquainted with organizer Donna Wallach.

Wallach, an American by birth, went to Israel in 1981 and became a citizen in 1985, but became disaffected by what she felt was cruel and unjust treatment of Palestini-

ans by the Israeli government.

"Israel is out-Nazi-ing the Nazis," Wallach said. "I'm a European Jew, and I got citizenship after four years. The Palestinians can't get citizenship after their

◆ See PROTEST, Page 6

◆ See CANCER, Page 6

Economists ponder nonpolitical implications of propositions

By Minal Gandhi

DAILY STAFF WRITER

During the third and final proposition discussions, Tom Means and Rodolfo Gonzalez presented the implications of Propositions 35, 37 and 39 to San Jose State University students and fac-

ulty members Wednesday in the Almaden Room of the Student Union.

As economics professors at SJSU, the men said they wanted to focus more on the economic impacts of these propositions rather than the political ones.

"Economists have more to say," Means said. "I'm disappointed about

the proposition recommendations from political science people."

Proposition 35 would amend the state constitution by eliminating existing restrictions on state and local contracting with private entities for engineering and architectural services.

These contracts would be awarded by

competitive selection, which can include bidding.

"It simply gives authority to the government to contract with private companies," Gonzalez explained to the eight people in the audience.

Proposition 37, which would distinguish between a tax and a fee, was also

discussed.

California's state constitution says that any tax must be approved by two-thirds of voters, whereas a regulatory fee would simply need a majority vote.

"Those who want to limit the power

◆ See ECONOMICS, Page 6

Weather doesn't wash away A.S. election debate

By Helena D. Hong

DAILY STAFF WRITER

Wednesday's rainy conditions did not prevent Associated Students from holding its debate on Proposition 38 and Measure A.

Instead of being held in the Student Union Amphitheater as planned, it was moved indoors to the second floor of the Student Union.

Sam Casas, director of legislative affairs for Associated Students, organized the event about a month ago to inform San Jose State University students about the legislature that will be on November's ballot.

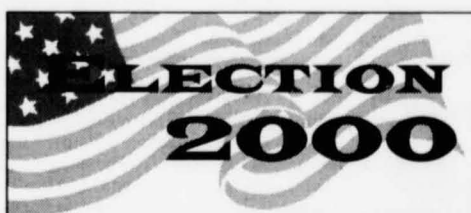
If passed, Proposition 38 would authorize annual state payments of at least \$4,000 per pupil for private or religious schools, replacing the current constitutional public school funding formula, according to the Santa Clara County Voter Registration booklet.

Measure A proposes to enact a 0.5 percent sales tax that would take effect April 1, 2006.

The sales tax would be spent on the extension of the Bay Area Rapid Transit system, also known as BART, from Fremont through Milpitas to downtown San Jose and the Santa Clara Caltrain Station.

The audience fluctuated from about 30 people during the first debate to about 10 people during the second.

Professor James Brent from the political science department opened the debate by explaining the structure and rules, introducing the speakers and



flipping a coin to choose who would present first. SJSU alumna Kathleen O'Connell-Sundaram from the Yes on Proposition 38 Campaign and Carolyn Ruck, a retired teacher and member of the California Teachers Association, debated the pros and cons of school vouchers.

O'Connell-Sundaram, who said she is a mother of four, started the debate by saying that the vouchers would help parents who have noticed dramatic educational regression in their child's schoolwork.

"Public schools cannot do the 'one size fits all' anymore," O'Connell-Sundaram said. She said she thinks private schools should assist individual students by evaluating the student's progress on a more personal level than is possible in public schools.

Ruck focused on the fact that the state voucher would not cover the entire cost of private schools.

"Where would the extra \$2,000 to \$4,000 come from?" Ruck asked. "That alone excludes lower income families that cannot afford to pay the extra fees."

She said certain types of children will be left in public schools if Proposition 38 is passed.

"The application process for these private schools are a horror, and the kids that get left behind (in public schools) are not the ones that have parents who are as involved in their education."

Junior Christina Saucedo, a nursing major, said she is leaning toward a "no" vote.

"They both had strong viewpoints," Saucedo said.

◆ See DEBATE, Page 6

Through the eyes of a child...



Kohjiro Kinno / Daily Staff

Maya Gupta, 15 months old, points to her oratory preschool located in the Central older brother through the observation room Classroom building. Gupta was waiting for window at the San Jose State University lab- the class to end with her mom Wednesday.

Letters

Ralph Nader: the only candidate untainted by oil, power interests

Ralph Nader is the only major candidate that will solve America's foreign oil dependency and entrenched power in Washington problems because he is not controlled by the oil industry.

American and European energy policies created Saddam Hussein's military, and the Clinton administration continues to become more dependent on foreign oil.

To solve this problem, Nader proposes a complete conversion to solar- and wind-generated power.

America is already producing power using these technologies. For a complete conversion, companies need an energy policy that will provide financing to build the initial power plants.

Because Gov. George W. Bush and Vice President Al Gore's support structure is the oil industry, they will not implement this policy.

Their family histories underscore this problem and the problem of entrenched power in Washington.

Bush's family members have controlled America's government and oil industry for a long time.

Bush is a former oil executive, and his father started Zapata Petroleum Corporation in 1953.

Bush's grandfather and great-grandfather formed partnerships with Democratic power broker Averell Harriman.

His massive corporate network controlled many industries: railroads, baking, coal, oil, etc.

Vice President Al Gore is less entrenched.

As a U.S. Senator, his father lobbied for Occidental Petroleum.

Later, he accepted a position on Occidental's board of directors. Following in his father's footsteps, Gore became a senator and lobbied for Occidental.

In sharp contrast, Ralph Nader's father owned a small restaurant.

Since graduating from Harvard Law School in 1953, Ralph Nader's nonprofit organizations have fought unscrupulous corporations in the courts and legislature.

Leo Tanner
senior
public relations

Make a pro-choice decision: Choose to be responsible

I am pro-choice. That's right, pro-choice. The choice is simple: sex or no sex. For those who have less self control (obviously the majority) the choice becomes even easier. That is to say, the female's ovulation period (when she is fertile) only occurs five to seven days out of the month.

This means that if you educate yourselves, and pinpoint your time, you will be able to have sex virtually any time you want, completely free of conception.

Because this is not a 100-percent infallible method of birth control, I opt for abstinence till marriage. However, the thought of no sex to some is outrageous.

It is stunning to me to hear how women use the classic phrase "I got pregnant by accident." That is like saying "I got in my car, and drove on accident."

If you didn't know, sex is to procreate (that means conceive and give birth).

What's more, if you took the time to look over the labels before you slip on the Trojan or insert the pill they read in simple terms "Not 100 percent effective."

The choice must come before an innocent life is brought into the world (conception). If not getting pregnant during sex was an option, we would all be equipped with a button on us to regulate our sperm/eggs.

Just follow this tip and abortion will not be an issue, and the heated hatred between pro-lifers and pro-choicers will be obsolete.

Daniel Offerman, thank you for your support. Yet, there is a huge difference between the Holocaust and abortion ... nine months.

Jake Huether
junior
mechanical engineering

'Biggest little city' is a big disappointment

I woke up suddenly Friday night, or Saturday morning, whatever you want to consider it. It wasn't the most pleasant of situations. I turned my head to the left, and about 10 feet away, the light from the hotel bathroom peeked from underneath the door.

It wasn't the light that got my attention, it was the guy inside the bathroom who was puking out a Reno evening's worth of alcohol.

It was quite becoming for a guy whom I had met just hours before. But I was able to ignore it after the first couple spews, and I went back to sleep, sort of.

I drifted in and out of my slumber. You know how it is in hotel rooms, especially a hotel room with six other people crammed into it.

About two hours later, the guy who was sleeping next to me got up to go to the bathroom. Of course it woke me up. Apparently, nobody ever wants to actually let me sleep.

So I turned my head to the left again and gazed toward the bathroom. The light was still on.

The other guy must have left the light on, I thought. Such was not the case, as Mr. Puker came stumbling out of the bathroom apologizing for his two-hour smoochfest with the porcelain gods.

Welcome to Reno.

To make things worse, as I tried to go back to sleep, another loud interruption obstructed my road to the world of Z's.



Mike Osegueda
Oz-mosis

You might know the guy, his column runs Mondays. "Born Under A Bad Sign" himself, Mr. D.S. Perez, was keeping the entire room awake with this finely perfected art of annoying snoring.

Let me tell you, the guy sounds like a sick horse with a boot stuck in its throat when he snores, only a little bit louder.

I love Reno.

It was my first time in the "Biggest little city in the world," and what a crash-course introduction I had.

Two days, 70 bucks of gambling and a bunch of stenchy clothes later, I formed my own perception of Reno: the biggest little piece of crap in the world.

Should I start with the casinos? Why not.



Letter to A.S. president

This letter is in response to the Oct. 9 column titled "Watching our school get sold down the river." The article hit raw nerves and made me sick to my stomach. The article discussed in detail the power-grabbing antics of Associated Students' president Leo Davila.

As a graduating senior studying political science and out of my love for my soon to be alma mater, I feel compelled to say my piece.

First, this is not the first time that I read disturbing stories about Leo Davila that raised questions about his character. During Mr. Davila's campaign for his job, some people wrote to complain about his dirty tricks — the fact that he injected the issue of his ethnicity into the campaign.

Once again, people are complaining about Mr. Davila. I do not know him well enough to question his heart, but I know enough to question his character. Character is what makes a man. A man without character is like a house built on shifting sand. Such a house will not stand for long. Mr. Davila, don't fool yourself to think otherwise.

Second, it seems to me that Mr. Davila is a reckless man. He seems reckless with the things he does to spite others. I have long believed that he whom the gods want to destroy, they first make mad. The gods are laughing, waiting to see if Mr. Davila will self-destruct.

There is no doubt in my mind that Mr. Davila is over-ambitious. And his proclivity to power grabbing only serves to reinforce that notion.

As a fellow student of political science, I feel compelled to warn Mr. Davila that over-ambition dooms to inevitable destruction the lives of men who lack the conviction of character, the vision and moral fortitude to understand that the end does not always justify the means.

I think you are an intelligent man, Mr. Davila, but intelligence does not always translate into common sense. Common sense dictates that reason should always guide our actions. You may well learn this lesson, but that remains to be seen.

Perhaps, Mr. Davila believes that rules were put in the place for mere mortals like us to obey, and for superior beings like him to scorn, twist and manipulate to achieve the desired end. Mr. Davila, as one of those mere mortals, I humbly urge you to stop reading Machiavelli. It is high time you put down "Prince." Remember, you are neither a prince nor of royal blood. You are just a pretender to the throne.

Mr. Davila, enjoy the power you now have. You don't need more powers. I fully support those trying to stop you from acquiring more power.

"Let all the people of the world learn to give to mortal men no greater power than they are content they shall use — for use it they will" (John Cotton).

Leo, it is not too late to redeem yourself, and prove me and others wrong. I wish you well.

Oliver Mmaju
senior
political science

Imagine my disappointment to find out casinos are nothing like they are in the movies. There's no scantily-clad females offering drinks, no friendly environment and, most of all, no money to be won.

At least for me.

Instead, I found old, crusty Mustang Ranch rejects yelling "drinks" in a tone that resembled Barney from "The Simpsons."

I found a place that smelled of cheap cigarettes, dirty old people and alcohol (note: This is only slightly better than our campus' smell).

And I found people who mindlessly fed money into machines or tossed it onto tables without much second thought.

The final category I fit into.

I figured it was my first time ever visiting a casino, so some sort of beginner's luck had to be in the cards for me, right?

Wrong. No luck in the cards, in the slots or on the roulette wheel — just a whole lot of beginner's misfortune.

After striking out in the casino Friday night, I decided I should spend Saturday night productively. I remembered I had a paper due Tuesday for my jazz class. I was supposed to go see a live jazz performance and write about it.

Of course I hadn't done it yet because I'm the typical procrastinating student. So I figured what better time than while I was trapped in Reno with the mission of not losing

anymore money to catch a jazz performance.

So after falling asleep during the end of the World Series game (best sleep I got all weekend), I took to the streets looking for a place that played jazz.

No problem, I figured, Reno is a Mecca of culture and entertainment. Sure.

I'm walking up and down the streets of Reno in what had to be about 30-degree, windy weather.

I blame the bellboys at Circus Circus. Those idiots sent me on a wild goose chase all over the cold, ugly, smelly streets of that sloppy two-bit town. No jazz was to be found, sorry Professor Hodge.

I would have been better off staying in the hotel and listening to the pathetic music played by the broke man's Monorail car that moves between hotels. Or better yet, I should have written about the incessant snoring that I was so privileged to hear in my hotel room.

I hate Reno.

That place is useless.

The next time I want to lose a bunch of money for absolutely no reason I should just suggest that the Associated Students hold a special election to build a new computer lab or something.

Mike Osegueda is the Spartan Daily Production Editor. "Oz-mosis" appears Thursdays.

Smoker asserts her right to cause her own demise

I am an addict. Since I was 17 years old, I've been lighting sticks of tobacco and inhaling them, poisoning my lungs and shortening my life.

I quit smoking for a year and a half once, but made the conscious decision to return to the habit.

Recently, the government (in addition to my parents and friends) has decided that even though I'm an adult, and quite capable of making my own decisions regarding my life and health, it knows what's best for me.

Smoking is a nasty habit, and it's bad for you.

Most smokers know that. There are warning labels on cigarette packs and advertisements on television cautioning people to stop smoking or avoid starting.

However, the choice to pollute one's own body with nicotine, tar and carbon monoxide remains an individual's decision, much like eating junk food or drinking alcohol.

We drive cars knowing we are at a huge risk of injury or death.

We eat fattening food knowing it can cause heart disease or high cholesterol.

But the government doesn't put warning labels on your bag of Fritos or tell you that the car you drive is only legal to drive on your own property.

The rights of individuals to make their own decisions regarding their health are being ignored and violated by the government.

An article in last week's San Diego Union-Tribune stated that a citizens group is trying to ban smoking within 50 feet of recreation centers in municipal parks.

If the citizens group succeeds, there won't be any smoking outdoors near these playgrounds, regardless of whether children are nearby to inhale secondhand smoke.

The article also stated that Berkeley and Davis have enacted similar laws.

One city in Wisconsin is seeking to penalize minors for possessing matches or lighters, according to an Oct. 12 Milwaukee Journal Sentinel article.

A student carrying a book of matches to school could be suspended and denied his or her constitutional right to education.

The citizens of that town must believe a witch hunt is more important than a child's education or constitutional rights.

The sky is the limit, though, for punishing adults who choose to exercise



Emily B. Zurich
DAILY STAFF WRITER

their right to smoke.

In a Nov. 29, 1998 article of the Seattle Times, Cassandra Tate wrote about the history of smoking and the persecution of its proponents.

"Human beings have been smoking ... the leaves of Nicotiana tabacum (tobacco) for at least 2,000 years and possibly longer," Tate wrote.

During the Spanish Inquisition, a man was sent to prison because he was thought to be possessed when smoke came out of his mouth and nose, the article stated.

It also stated that in 17th century China, those who smoked could be decapitated.

We may not be too far from that kind of punishment in our country.

The massive anti-tobacco sentiment in this country has become so irrational and out of hand that certain facts about smoking are being ignored.

In an Oct. 17 article of the Ocala Citizen, a study revealed that smokers might be as much as 50 percent less likely than nonsmokers to develop Parkinson's disease.

Doctors won't tell you that because they believe you should only hear evidence to support kicking the habit.

I'm not advocating smoking to avoid Parkinson's disease.

I'm also not advocating blowing smoke in the faces of children.

But it's time for the government to stop dictating what's best for us.

It's time for the war on smokers to end.

We're intelligent enough to take care of our own children and our own bodies.

Emily B. Zurich is a Spartan Daily Staff Writer.

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Opinion page policies

Readers are encouraged to express themselves on the Opinion page with a letter to the editor.

A letter to the editor is a 200-word response to an issue or point of view that has appeared in the Spartan Daily.

Submissions become the property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. **Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.**

Submissions may be put in the Letters to the Editor box at the Spartan Daily Office in Dwight Bentel Hall Room 209, sent by fax to (408) 924-3237, e-mail at SDAILY@jmc.sjsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San Jose State University, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0149.

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SpartaGuide



COMPILED BY THE DAILY STAFF

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21
You will befriend a lonesome squirrel, who will turn out to have cooties and die under your bed, but only after infesting your family with lice.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21
A homeless person who looks vaguely familiar will approach you and yell, "Humperdink, Humperdink, Humperdink."

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 20
The tube said not to use cream bleach down there, but you did anyway. The burn won't go away until the skin grows back.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 18
The following came to me from the stars in secret code. Only you will understand. Moshi moshi. Tu estas y sonno auslander pamplemousse kilikili mabaho jednu cicatrice gundi chaddi, yog-sothoth. Oui. Let me know what it says, would you?

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20
I've got a Halloween suggestion for you. Dress up like Mike Tyson go door-to-door and tell

people you will eat their children if they don't give you candy. None of that sugar candy either. Chocolate, all chocolate.

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 19
Uh-oh. You pee-peed in your panties again, didn't you? Wait until the rest of the class leaves, then run home. Next time don't forget your Pull-ups.

TAURUS

APRIL 20 - MAY 20
You are currently enrolled in the Creating a Meaningful Life class. Apparently, it's not working.

GEMINI

MAY 21 - JUNE 20
For you a horoscope haiku. Broccoli beef vomit, vomit, vomit this week is cursed.

CANCER

JUNE 21 - JULY 22
A pod of putrid gingko juice will explode on your head when you walk under the tree. On the plus side, you're memory will be improved through osmosis.

LEO

JULY 23 - AUGUST 22
The stars say it is cloudy, and they cannot see you. Wear brighter colors, or perhaps wave flashlights in the air.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22
Quit eating all of the Halloween candy early or Mom's gonna ship you off to the fat farm again.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 22 - OCTOBER 22
Watch for the upcoming rainy weather. Witches like you tend to melt and fizzle away when rain comes.

Today

Catholic Campus Ministry

Mass and brown bag lunch discussion: "Catholic Land Mines," 12:10 p.m. to 12:35 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul Youth Conference for Social Justice, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Singles for Christ — graduate students prayer and fellowship, 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Bible reflection on upcoming Sunday readings, 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. All events at the Campus Ministry Center, 300 S. 10th St. For more information, call Father Charlie or Sister Marcia at 938-1610.

Society for Advancement of Management
A club for all majors interested in management experiences. Members are eligible for a free trip to Las Vegas. Join today. Contact us at samsjsu@yahoo.com.

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges

Now accepting nominations for outstanding students to be selected in 2000-01 Who's who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Forms are available in the Student Life Center. Deadline is Friday, Nov. 17. For more information, call Cori Miller at 924-5950.

School of Art & Design

Student galleries art exhibitions, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art and Industrial Science buildings. Gallery 2: Keay Edwards, Gallery 3: Masako Miki, Gallery 5: Jennifer Ahn, Gallery 8: Leslie West and the Herbert Sanders Gallery: Jim Shirter. For more information, call John or Nicole at 924-4330

Glass Artist Guild

Ornament sale, today through Saturday, outside the Student Union.

REACH (Re-Entry And Commuter Help Program)

Brown bag lunch — Halloween Party, noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Union, Pacheco room. For more information, call Jane Boyd at 924-5950.

Library Donations & Book Sales

Ongoing book sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Clark Library, 4th floor, Room 408. For more information, call the acquisitions department at 924-2705.

Spartan Rugby

Rugby practice, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at South Campus (10th and Alma streets). All are welcome to play. No try outs. For more information, call Dustin Winn at 295-8962.

Campus Crusade For Christ

Night Life: A time of worship, prayer and fellowship, 8 p.m. at Washington Square Hall, Room 207. For more information, call Jerry at 297-7616 or visit www.sjsucrusade.com.

Listening Hour Concert Series

Small Jazz Ensembles, Katharine Cartwright, coordinator, 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the Music building Concert Hall. For more information, call Joan Stubbe at 924-4631.

The Dance Program of the School of Music and Dance

Choreography III showing, 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. at the Spartan Complex East, Room 219. For more information, call Donna at 924-5046.

Counseling Services

Workshop: "Stress and Relationships," 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Administration building, Room 201. For more information, call Anna Fimbres-Windley and Sue Nelson at 924-5910.

Associated Students

Discussion on Diversity, noon in the Student Union, Council Chambers. For more information, call Maribel at 924-8899.

Institute of Management Accountants

Speaker: "What is the CMA?" 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Student Union, Guadalupe room.

Polynesian/Hawaiian Club

Still want to join? Come check us out, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Event Center (ask for Andre) or 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Student Union, Almaden room. For more information, call Andre at 924-6372 or Cori at 924-5963.

Department of Occupational Therapy

Undergraduate advising of O.T. Program Applicants, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Central Classroom building, Room 210. For more information, call Amy Killingsworth at 924-3073.

Vietnamese Student Association

General meeting, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Student Union, Pacifica room. All are welcome. There will be prizes! For more information, call Lan at 623-1921.

The SJSU Film Club

"I Saw What You Did" Halloween show, 9 p.m. at Sweeney Hall, Room 100. For more information, e-mail anemia_sjsu@hotmail.com.

Friday

Catholic Campus Ministry

Noon Mass, 12:10 p.m. to 12:35 p.m. at the Campus Ministry Chapel, 300 S. 10th St. For more information, call Father Charlie at 938-1610.

SJSU Sailing Club

Practice, 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Lake Cunningham, near Raging Waters. No experience necessary, co-ed. For more information, call Joanna Dilley at (650) 799-3208 or e-mail JoDilley@aol.com.

SAM

Pizza night, 6:30 p.m. at Stuft Pizza in Campbell. For more information, e-mail samsjsu@yahoo.com.

Limon Dance Company of San Jose and The Dance Program of the School of Music and Dance

"Danceworks," 7 p.m. at the Spartan Complex East, Room 219. For more information, call Donna at 924-5046.

Counseling Services

Workshop: "Managing Stress of Depression," noon to 1:15 p.m. at the Administration building, Room 201. For more information, call Anna Fimbres-Windley and Molly Hsieh at 924-5910.

Muslim Students Association

Salatul Juma' and Halaqa "Muslim Friday Prayer," 1:15 p.m. in the Student Union, Costanoan room. For more information, call Faten Hijazi at 738-5940.

Saturday

Limon Dance Company of San Jose and The Dance Program of the School of Music and Dance

"Danceworks," 7 p.m. at the Spartan Complex East, Room 219. For more information, call Donna at 924-5046.

Jewish Student Union/Hillel

Haudallaween Freak Fest party, 8 p.m. at 336 E. William St. (between Seventh and Eighth streets). For more information, call Jonathon Mizrahi at 286-6669.

Sunday

Catholic Campus Ministry

Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy and Dinner, 6 p.m. at the Campus Ministry Chapel, 300 S. 10th St.

Mass, 8 p.m. at the Campus Ministry Chapel. For more information, call Father Charlie at 938-1610.

San Jose Chamber Music Society

Chilingirian String Quartet in concert, 7 p.m. with pre-concert talk at 6:30 p.m. at Le Petit Trianon Concert Hall, 72 North Fifth St. Student tickets are \$10. For more information, call SJCMS voice mail at 286-5111.

San Jose State University International House

Pancake Breakfast Fall 2000, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 360 S. 11th St. (between San Salvador and San Carlos). For more information, call Pilar Dixon at 924-6570.

Monday

Catholic Campus Ministry

Daily Mass, 12:10 p.m. to 12:35 p.m. at the Campus Ministry Chapel, 300 S. 10th St. For more information, call Father Charlie at 938-1610.

Paky Club

First meeting, 1 p.m. in the Student Union, Council Chambers. Come join the Paky Club from the ground up. All Pakies, Middle Easterners and Indians invited. For more information, call Farhan Latif at 420-9044 or e-mail West-Side2016@yahoo.com.

Campus Crusade For Christ

Monday morning prayer, 9:30 a.m. at the Student Union Amphitheater. For more information, visit www.sjsucrusade.com.

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon, three working days before the desired publication date. Entry forms are available in the Spartan Daily Office. Space restrictions may require editing of submissions. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received.

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COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND THE ARTS

Limp Bizkit still going strong with new album

By Laura Buckingham
SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

If one can get past the name, "Chocolate Starfish and the Hot Dog Flavored Water," the latest offering from rock/rap quintet Limp Bizkit is a pleasant surprise.

REVIEW

Chock-full of brash metal and hip-hop-laced beats, Limp Bizkit furthers its journey into the interesting world that is quickly becoming its own genre: the hybrid of rock and rap.

Historically, the two music styles have been equally controversial, misunderstood and, most importantly, have seen blind devotion from hordes of young and faceless individuals.

Limp Bizkit's ingenious combination of the two categories finally gives a face to the legion of followers, who are predominantly white teen-agers fed up with their middle class upbringing.

The first single off "Chocolate Starfish..." is MTV-friendly "Rollin'." It is presented in two convenient versions.

There is "Rollin' (Air Raid Vehicle)" for all the rockers, and "Rollin' (Urban Assault Vehicle)," the Swiss Beatz-produced version, complete with help from rap heavyweights DMX, Method Man and Red Man.

Clearly the standout single from the new album, "Rollin'" practically forces itself into a car's compact disc player begging to be the next cruising anthem.

Both versions are hard and in your face but are about as threatening as the accompanying choreography from the "Rollin'" video.

Track No. 2, "Hot Dog," is the album's only reference to its weird title. What may as well be called the "F***ed Up" song due to Durst's excessive (and I do mean excessive) usage of the expletive, "Hot Dog" is biting and angry - just the stuff that pimply white kids from the 'burbs will eat up.

However, for those who are not eager to rebel against parents through a boom box, "Hot Dog" will simply serve as another blatant attempt by Durst to offend.

Maintaining consistency, the song "My Generation" is catchy. While it is not as radio and video-friendly as "Rollin'", it has definite potential to become a hit.

In the song, Durst denounces critics, naysayers and pretty much anyone who has, or ever

will, dis "his generation."

Limp Bizkit enlists Xzibit on "Getcha Groove On," for an innovative and attractive sound that packs as powerful a punch as Durst's collaboration with Method Man on last year's "N2Gether Now."

Showcasing the guitar skills of Wes Borland (the guy with the scary black contact lenses), "Take a Look Around" is strong and effective with its adaptation of the "Mission Impossible" theme. Despite the song's cinematic influence, it loses momentum just as soon as Durst starts to sing. Durst's voice sounds awkward and mismatched with Borland's strong performance.

"Livin' it Up" provides Durst with the platform to refer and pay homage to his rock star image, even dedicating the song to his friend Ben Stiller. A bit reminiscent of "Break Stuff" from Limp Bizkit's 1999 album "Significant Other," "Livin' It Up" is slow and successful in its attempts to lure listeners into the crazy world of Limp Bizkit.

If the beginning of track No. 13, "Hold On," sounds strangely familiar, it is probably because it is similar to the beginning of Van Halen's "Feelin'." The similarities end there though, as "Hold On" goes in an entirely different direction, with the help of Stone Temple Pilots' frontman Scott Weiland. Along with Durst, Weiland penned the track as well as produced it, making it a sure triumph.

One of the album's success stories, "Hold On" is slight in its approach and is probably as soft as one will ever hear Limp Bizkit get.

Ironically, the best thing about "Chocolate Starfish..." has nothing to do with music.

Stay tuned past the "Outro," and one will hear a hilarious, good-natured ribbing of Limp Bizkit by Ben Stiller. That in itself was worth my 17 bucks.

As ubiquitous as the red baseball cap on Fred Durst's head, so are his references to his critics. "Chocolate Starfish..." is a clear backlash to those who doubt Limp Bizkit's artistic integrity.

"Significant Other" was Limp Bizkit's breakthrough album, and while it is less honest and a bit more egotistical, "Chocolate Starfish..." is a musical step up that will not disappoint.

Whether one enjoys their music, one has to at least respect Limp Bizkit for giving listeners a new sound to be excited about.

Log on for spine-tingling tales

Boo! Don't be frightened - it isn't Oct. 31 just yet. Halloween isn't my favorite holiday because I can never get off work in time to scare other ghouls and ghosts, but the festivities and candy are always a worthwhile treat.

I don't like haunted houses nor do I like black and orange.

But I do enjoy a good scary story - the kind of story that makes the hair on the back of your neck stand up and provide a bit of paranoia whenever a full moon is set upon us.

Take a second or two and click on to some haunts - but be careful it could be more than you asked for.

www.ewhow.com

Log on to ewhow.com and pick up some story telling skills.

This Web site has directions on how to tell a ghost story.

Details as simple as gathering friends together and bringing a flashlight are outlined.

For novice story tellers, ewhow.com should be the first stop to terror.

The frightful chills and sweaty palms can only be induced if a story is told in a room engulfed in darkness and with a dimly lit flashlight illuminating the storyteller's face - the details are outlined on this site.

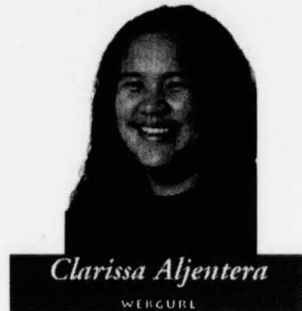
socrates.berkeley.edu/~annaleen/Winchester_Silicon.html

It's in your backyard.

OK, more or less it is in the general vicinity of school.

The Winchester Mystery House, located in west San Jose, has always been the true ghost house of Silicon Valley.

This site outlines a brief history of the house and the ghosts that have haunted it. It gives a



Clarissa Aljentera
WEGURL

brief account of how the Winchester Mystery House has grown and changed with the valley.

It doesn't get any closer to home than that.

www.connexions.co.uk/culture/html/ghosts.html

These stories are rumored to be direct from the British Isles, complete with spine-tingling tales.

There are some stories that date back from the late 1600s.

These stories are more interesting to someone who has traveled to this area of the world.

But it is interesting to make the imaginary journey to the haunted section of North Cornwall where misty shapes drifting on the horizon could be considered a daily occurrence.

photos2.ghostweb.com/tales.html

It won't knock your socks off or make you laugh.

These stories are a collection of thoughts and experiences from random people who have decided that their story is worthy enough to post.

It is difficult to say which ones are authentic and which are tall tales, but give it a look for entertainment value.

You may be surprised to find you've had a similar experience.

www.ghosts.org/faq/faq.html

This is equivalent to the ghosts for dummies Web site.

Do you know what a Quija board is?

Do you know what ghosts exist?

Well, call this one-stop shopping.

It is a cross between a how-to site, a story site and a miscellaneous ghost site.

There are no graphics, which makes the upload simpler from the users perspective.

There also is a list of haunted universities, so logon to see if San Jose State University is listed.

www.werewolfpage.com

They are more than just crea-

tures that are covered from head to foot in hair.

There seems to be various myths surrounding the life of lycanthropes.

But the most interesting is how to become one.

There are suggestions of eating a brain of a wolf and tasting human flesh.

This is all deeper than Michael J. Fox dancing around in "Teen Wolf."

This is serious business, especially if you were born on Christmas Eve ... but you'll have to visit the page to find out why.

Clarissa Aljentera is a Spartan Daily Senior Staff writer.

"Webgurl" can be reached at webgurl@onebo.com.

"Webgurl" appears on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month.

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Back into the woods

Sequel to 'Blair Witch Project' goes Hollywood with more spooks, high-tech haunts

By Emily B. Zurich
DAILY STAFF WRITER

The witch is back, and this time, she's more high-tech than ever. The sequel to last year's "Blair Witch Project," "Book of Shadows: Blair Witch 2," hits theaters Friday and promises to give moviegoers a more polished horror experience than the original.

REVIEW

Those who saw the first film remember shaky camerawork and gritty footage that may have made it difficult to watch.

Couple that with large screens and stomachs full of greasy snacks, and some people may have felt nauseated.

Thankfully, the sequel is not shown from a first-person point of view.

As soon as the movie begins, it's clear this is not a continuation of the first movie's format.

For example, the movie opens with music and sweeping shots of the Maryland woods.

The story then starts as a "fictionalized re-enactment" of events that happened after the release of the first movie.

This is where "Blair Witch 2" will be difficult to follow for those who have not seen the first film.

The intricate and elaborate story line of the first movie caused some people to believe that the legend of the Blair Witch was true.

"Blair Witch 2" plays up to this phenomenon, showing fake news footage of copycat killers and people traumatized by the first movie.

Then it shows residents of Burkittsville, Md., the town near where the first movie was set, complaining that their town has been overrun with Blair Witch hunters.

The goal is to make the viewer believe the first movie was so convincing it caused all sorts of mayhem that wasn't nationally reported.

Although it's not exactly convincing, it's entertaining and serves to help the viewer become immersed in the Blair Witch phenomenon.

The movie then becomes a third-person perspective, which is a relief to those who feared a continuation of the first movie's fake documentary silliness.

The news footage segues into

showing a tour group about to enter the woods near Burkittsville.

It's led by a tormented recluse named Jeff, who also sells Blair Witch souvenirs on the Internet out of his warehouse in the woods.

While touring the woods, Jeff and his group run into a bunch of foreigners who have been conned into believing that the Blair Witch legend of the first movie is true.

There's a healthy amount of comedy in this movie, and the writers often poke fun at the original cast.

A few of the characters, all played by believable actors, are based on exaggerated stereotypes and bring a few laughs to the mix.

An overzealous sheriff chases Jeffrey and his group into the woods and will stop at nothing to blame them for every crime the audience knows was perpetrated by the Blair Witch herself.

In the tradition of the first film, the main actors in this movie are in their early or mid-20s and have the same first names as the characters they portray.

The other people on the tour include a Wiccan hippie-type woman who thinks the movie gave witches a bad name, a couple writing a book about the Blair Witch phenomenon and a sarcastic Goth chick who thought the movie was "cool."

Predictably, weird things start to happen as soon as the group starts to party in the woods their first night camping out.

They awake to find all of their camera equipment ruined and notes destroyed.

The themes of the first movie resurface, with camera footage found buried and people mysteriously disappearing.

The difference between this and the first movie is that the special effects make the witch's trickery more sophisticated.

Furthermore, there's a sufficient amount of gore and violence to please the fans of more traditional horror films.

The movie pays homage to "The Exorcist" with a possession-style twist at the end.

It's interesting and clever, but



Above, Jeff Donovan as Jeff Patterson in "Book of Shadows: Blair Witch 2."

Left, Donovan and Erica Geerson (Erica Leerhsen) come across buried footage during a tour of the Blair Witch woods.

photos courtesy of Artisan Entertainment

not entirely satisfying.

Some moviegoers may be disappointed that this movie is not quite as suspenseful as the original.

It leaves less to the imagination, which translates to "Blair Witch 2" being less frightening.

Some moviegoers may prefer this to the original because it follows a more familiar format.

Others may feel the movie is less realistic and too polished, with too many special effects.

Those who haven't seen the first film will more than likely be bored and find it hard to follow.

But the many people who did see and enjoy "The Blair Witch

Project" should be pleasantly surprised by the sequel's ability to continue the colorful story line and provide a realistic horror experience.

BOOK OF SHADOWS: BLAIR WITCH 2

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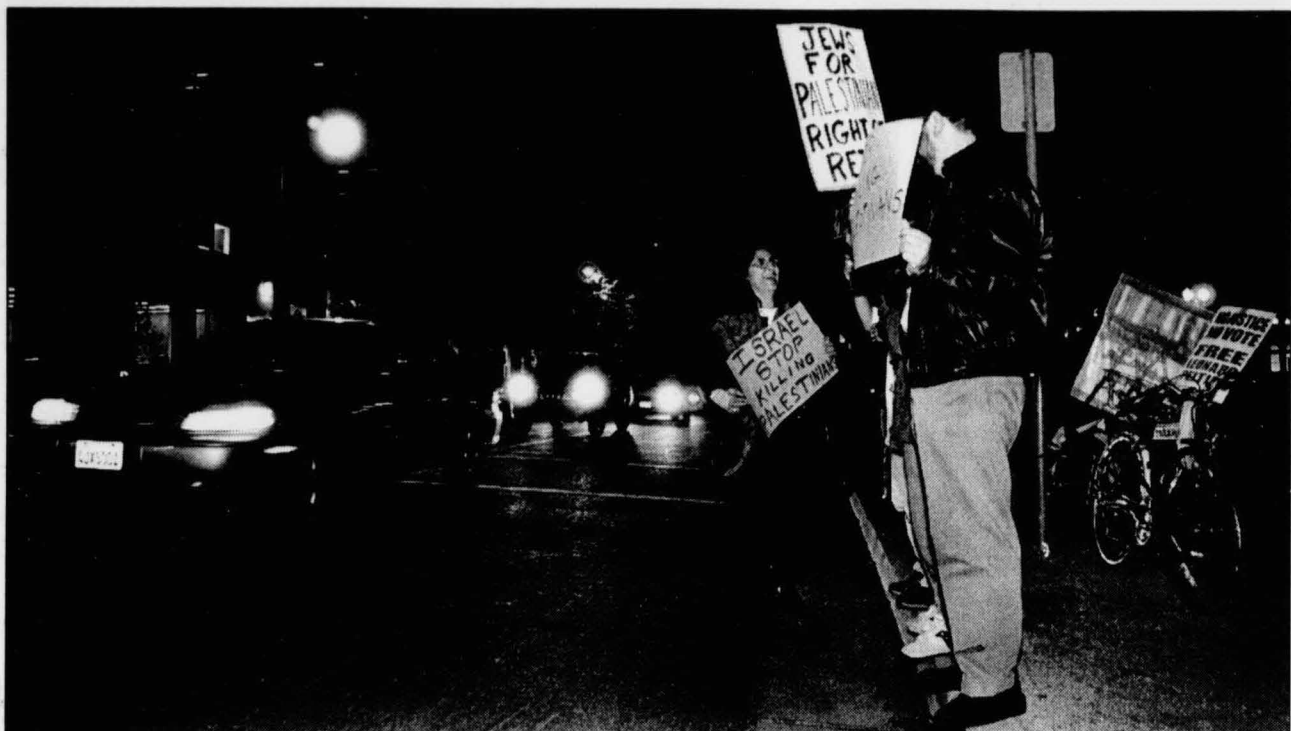
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Jill Toyoshiba / Daily Staff

San Jose resident Alicia Carvajal, in the street, talks to the five other protestors opposed to Israeli aggression against Palestinian civilians. The demonstration took place at Plaza de Cesar Chavez, on Market and Park streets. Organizer Donna Wallach said she plans to hold demonstrations each Wednesday evening for several weeks.

PROTEST: Activists say they plan to return to park as often as possible

◆ continued from Page 1

families have been there for hundreds of years. They carry resident cards." Wallach said it finally became apparent to her during the time Prime Minister Netanyahu was in office that the Israelis were unwilling to compromise with the Palestinians. She returned to the United States in 1997. "As an Israeli citizen, I represented everything I abhorred," Wallach said. "My Jewishness, my American Jewish privilege, gave me all kinds of rights Palestinians didn't have. I felt hypocritical." Two of the other demonstrators, Sana Makhoul and Fadi Saba, had come from Palestine and are now U.S. citizens. "I just want them (the Israelis) to stop killing Palestinians and end the occupation now," Makhoul said.

Saba said he believed the Israeli occupation was in violation of a United Nations Security Council resolution. "I come here as an American taxpayer," Saba said. "I'm paying for the slaughter of Palestinian civilians, who are rising up to liberate themselves from the Israeli occupation because Israel will not follow the U.N. Security Council resolution 242, which states that Israel must withdraw from territories not occupied before the 1967 war, such as the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, which includes east Jerusalem. "If Israel had done so, there would not be these clashes," he said. The three other demonstrators were Alicia Carvajal, who emigrated from Chile, Mihneh Marinescu, who came from Romania, and Katherine Silva, who is native to the United States and was a student at San Jose City College until this fall.

"I just want them (the Israelis) to stop killing Palestinians and end the occupation now."

— Sana Makhoul, demonstrator

Carvajal and Marinescu are both now American citizens. Wallach said she planned to return to the park every Wednesday no matter how few demonstrators showed up. "My plan is to come out here as often as possible," Wallach said.

DEBATE: Event organizers happy with speakers, results of legislative debate

◆ continued from Page 1

"Through personal experience, I attended both private and public. And private schools are more for the middle and higher class." Saucedo said she saw fliers for the event on campus and decided to attend to get informed. "This is a good event Associated Students put on for us," Saucedo said. "As college students we don't have the time to watch or read news." Anthony Drummond, director of faculty affairs for Associated Students, debated in favor of Measure A, and Andy Chow, director of Peninsula Rail 2000, took the opposing side. Peninsula Rail 2000 is an all-volunteer trans-

it consumer group. Chow said that Measure A will not provide the traffic relief Bay Area commuters are looking for within the next three to five years. He said Measure A is "not the way to go" because the tax will not be implemented until 2006, not soon enough to make a difference. Drummond, who works at the Valley Transit Authority, said Measure A will provide traffic relief because of BART's plan to cover a greater portion of the Bay Area. According to Drummond, the VTA plans to be in complete control of the BART system by the year 2020. Chow said there are many local plans that

may answer mass transit problems sooner than Measure A would. By the second debate the audience was sparse, but Casas said he was happy with the turnout. "The speakers were awesome," Casas said. "They were professional and educated on the issue. I was extremely impressed by the students." Casas said ultimately there were no winners or losers at the debate, only better informed students. "That's who really wins — the students," Casas said. "They're the ones that get these initiatives passed or not."

Lighting a 'Fire'



Jill Toyoshiba / Daily Staff

Laura Ciccarello, a student assistant, works in a raised "bucket" to set up lights for the upcoming performance of "Love's Fire," modern interpretations of six Shakespearean sonnets. The performance is scheduled to be held in late November and early December in the University Theatre, located in Hugh Gillis Hall.

ECONOMICS: Discussion helps students get familiar with propositions

◆ continued from Page 1

of government will want to label something a tax," Gonzalez said. "Those who want to expand its power would label it a fee." Means tried to explain the proposition further and said that it was a complicated issue. A "yes" vote on Proposition 37 means that government actions to establish regulatory charges would require approval by a greater number of legislators or local voters. A "no" vote means that the current laws and requirements would remain the same. Proposition 39 was the last of the three propositions up for discussion. The proposition authorizes a bond for repair and construction of school facilities if it is approved by 55 percent of the local vote. Since 1986, with the passing of Proposition 13, a two-thirds majority vote has been needed to pass school bonds. Proposition 39 supporters want to decrease this approval requirement. Gonzalez said he thinks this proposition will pass. Jaspal Rattu, a junior majoring in biology said he is thinking of voting "yes" on Proposition 39, but he said he hopes

that improvement in schools will take place quickly. Rattu said he came to the discussion mainly because his Economics 1B instructor was offering extra credit. "Before I went, I thought this would be a debate, but both of them seemed to be on the same side," Rattu said. However, he said the discussion helped him learn about the propositions, which he had not been familiar with prior to the discussion. Means said that one of his goals was to inform the audience about these propositions. "I did this because people don't hear about any propositions except the popular ones," Means said. "I wanted to present the economic implications of them."

Log on: <http://vote2000.ss.ca.gov> For more info on propositions Means and Gonzalez said they hope to see SJSU students take economic courses to learn how economists analyze these issues. For more information on propositions 35, 37 and 39, and others, visit the California Secretary of State Web site at <http://vote2000.ss.ca.gov>.

CANCER: Speaker says it is never too early for women to worry about disease

◆ continued from Page 1

though the turnout was less than what she had expected, she wasn't disappointed. "Our purpose wasn't really turnout so much," Fraser said. "I think the people who were here got a really good lesson, and they're going to go out and, hopefully, tell other members of their sorority and talk to other people that they know." O'Neil said that in her 13 years as a volunteer for the American Cancer Society, she has heard concerns from many women who say they aren't sure what they're feeling is normal or not. "I'm a 17-year breast cancer survivor, and I can tell you that the lump feels different," O'Neil said. While mammograms are an important part of early detection, O'Neil said women shouldn't rely on their yearly doctor's appointment for early detection. "Doing a breast self-exam is very important because we're the only ones that know our bodies," O'Neil said. "You can go to a doctor and be examined once a year, but he's not going to remember that you have a little lump in here or a little something there." O'Neil began by showing a short video illustrating the proper technique for breast self-examination. Following the video, O'Neil passed around a gel-like model of a breast with five simulated lumps hidden inside. Some of the women were surprised that they couldn't easily find all of the lumps. Roopa Ramamoorthi, a part-time chemical engineering faculty member, raised her hand to tell O'Neil she could only find two. Other women in attendance nodded in agreement. Their expressions turned to surprise when O'Neil coached Ramamoorthi to press harder on the breast to find the largest lump in the center. One of the mistakes women make in self-exams is pressing very lightly, O'Neil said. Ramamoorthi said she was prompted to attend the event

"I'm a 17-year breast cancer survivor, and I can tell you that the lump feels different"

— Donna O'Neil, American Cancer Society

because she knew two women who were affected by breast cancer, one of whom was diagnosed at age 26. Ramamoorthi said she left the event better informed about breast self-examination. "I knew about breast self-exam, but the details and specifics about when to do it and how to do it properly was something I didn't know," Ramamoorthi said. The ideal time to conduct a breast self-exam is a week after menstruation, O'Neil said. Women who have gone through menopause should self-exam at the same time each month, O'Neil added. Many women isolate their self-exams to the immediate breast area, which is a common mistake, O'Neil said. It is important to also feel for lumps above the breast on the chest and along the sides because these are the most common places for breast cancer to start, O'Neil said. "It's never too early to start self breast examination, O'Neil told the women. And should there be something that doesn't feel normal, O'Neil said, "Go to the doctor and say, 'I have found this.' And don't let him say, 'Oh, you're too young. Don't worry about it.' Follow through. Peace of mind is the key here." As a woman, being educated about breast cancer is a responsibility, O'Neil said. "It's very important, I feel, to be educated," O'Neil told the group of college students. "But as a woman, be educated in health issues, too."

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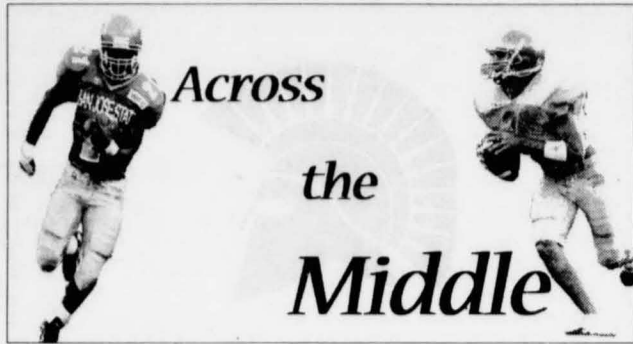
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Spartans take role as WAC surprise team



By Marcus R. Fuller
DAILY SPORTS EDITOR

The third-place Spartan football team is the surprise of the Western Athletic Conference this season.

With a 3-1 WAC record, and the No. 1 offense in a conference that features the nation's leading rusher, **LaDanian Tomilson** of

Texas Christian University, the Spartans are rolling.

A year ago it wasn't San Jose State University (5-2) who was shocking conference foes.

It was the University of Hawai'i who had the rags to riches tag for the season.

The Warriors, who had a 2-22 conference record from 1996-1998, finished as the 1999 WAC Champions.

"Hawai'i had their season last year, making it to a bowl game and winning the WAC," said SJSU senior defensive tackle **Bryan Yeager**. "This year that's what people are saying about us."

Hawai'i is currently 1-5 overall this season and 1-4 in the conference. But, with a 62-41 win at Spartan Stadium last season, the Spartans are sure to face a different Warrior team Saturday in Honolulu.

"I can see Hawai'i coming at us with a little bit of a grudge because we're doing well this season," Yeager said. "It's their chance to get at us."

Head coach **Dave Baldwin** is concerned with the Warriors' defense, which, like SJSU, has two players in the top five in tackles in the WAC.



Yeager

"They have a very good defensive team," Baldwin said.

SJSU has won three out of the last four meetings with the Warriors, including the last two at Aloha Stadium in Hawaii. The Spartans lead the overall series 14-8-1.

Going to be a shootout

The Spartan football team's 49-30 victory against the University of Nevada on Saturday proved to be the biggest offensive output of the season for two Western Athletic Conference teams.

San Jose State University put together its highest scoring game of the year and had 503 yards of total offense in the game. Nevada had nearly 200 yards more than its season average of 345 yards per contest.

The scoreboard could light up again when SJSU arrives in Honolulu on Saturday.

Last year on Nov. 6 in San Jose, the two teams combined to score 103 total points. Both quar-

terbacks, **Dan Robinson** and **Chris Kasteler**, threw more than 350 yards and four touchdowns apiece.

Despite flip-flopping in the WAC standings this season, the Warriors can still let it fly with the conference's youngest quarterback, freshman **Timmy Chang**. He has led the Hawai'i passing game to No. 1 in the conference in yards per game since he gained the starting position.

Chang, who threw 64 touchdown passes as a senior at St. Louis High School in Hawai'i, has the ability to hurt the Spartan secondary on every play. But, Yeager said he isn't worried about the opponents' passing game.

"They're a lot like Reno. They air it out, but they're one dimen-

sional," Yeager said. "We can't allow them to rush for 150 yards. We have to get after them."

Julien player of the week

Junior tailback **Jarmar Julien** was named WAC offensive player of the week for his performance in the victory against Nevada.

Julien played in only the second and fourth quarters of Saturday's game, but he rushed for 110 yards on 16 carries and tied a school record with four touchdowns.

Julien's scores were needed when the Spartans had a 28-23 lead with just eight minutes left in the fourth quarter. He scored SJSU's final three touchdowns to seal the 49-30 victory.

Hawai'i game televised

The SJSU game against Hawai'i will be on Bay TV. The live telecast begins at 9:00 p.m. Saturday.

Cross country gears up for conference tourney

By Kellie Chittenden
DAILY STAFF WRITER

After the Spartan cross country team placed second at the Santa Clara Invitational last week, Jason Blair said expectations are high going into this weekend's Western Athletic Conference Championships.

"It's the best season we've had since we started the men's program up again," Blair said. "We're definitely happy about that. We should place higher in WAC this season."

The men's cross-country program was cut along with men's track and field, women's field hockey and wrestling in 1988 due to budget constraints.

Coach Augie Argabright shared Blair's sentiment, saying the cur-

rent men's team is the best SJSU has seen since the program was reinstated in 1996.

Argabright attributed the team's success to seniors Blair and Trevor Marca.

"Trevor Marca and Jason Blair have been the real motivators of this team," Argabright said.

Argabright said he's keeping the Spartan's goals in perspective as they head to the conference championships.

"We've never beaten a team from the WAC, and that's our goal," Argabright said.

In preparation for the championship meet, to be held Saturday in Tulsa, Okla., the team has been tapering its mileage to be well rested, Blair said.

Blair's performance has been "up and down" following a torn

gluteus muscle he suffered earlier in the season.

Blair said the injury was his first in eight years.

"It scared the heck out of me," he said.

With Blair recuperating for a large part of the season, Marca has been the driving force of the team, Argabright said.

With a third place finish at last week's Santa Clara Invitational and three other top-five finishes earlier in the season, Marca is the Spartan's most consistent performer.

Argabright said he's counting on Marca's performance at the championships.

A strong chance of rain is expected for the weekend, Argabright said.

Argabright said that while this

may be a concern for most runners, the poor weather can be an advantage for Marca, who has proven to be adept under such conditions.

"He's a very tough runner," Argabright said. "If he was a bigger guy, he'd be a linebacker."

Marca is to the men's team what Ana Martinez is to the women's.

Martinez dominated at the Santa Clara meet, taking first place in the 5-kilometer event with a time of 18:39.

Martinez has been a standout performer throughout the season with a second place finish at the Cross Country Only Nationals 6-kilometer run and three other top-five finishes for the season.

Martinez said the entire team has improved from last season.

"We've done better than I expected," Martinez said. "We have accomplished a lot, but there's still a lot more to go."

Argabright said the goal going into the championships for the women's team is to finish in the top half of the conference.

Martinez and Janina Crain are the top two performers who he expects to lead the team in achieving this goal.

"Janina and Ana have an excellent chance to make the all-WAC team," Argabright said.

At last year's championship meet, Martinez and Crain placed eighth and 14th respectively in the overall conference.

Crain said that while making the all-WAC team would be nice, it won't be her frame of mind as she laces up her running shoes in

Tulsa.

"That's not one of the goals that I set," Crain said. "If it happens, it happens."

More than anything, Argabright said, he hopes the Spartans will beat Fresno State University at the championships.

"Of all the teams in the WAC, they're the ones we have to worry about as far as recruiting," Argabright said, adding that Fresno State has a more extensive program and more funding for athletic scholarships than SJSU.

Following the WAC Championships, the team will compete at the National Collegiate Athletic Association Western Regionals on Nov. 11 in Fresno.

The NCAA Championships will be held in Ames, Iowa Nov. 20.



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